

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-14 are currently pending in the above-captioned application. The Examiner issued a restriction requirement in the Office Action in which it is urged that there are three separate and distinct inventions claimed in this application. In response, Applicants elect the group I of the invention, with claims 1-7 without traverse.

In addition, Applicants are required to elect a single species for the elected invention. In response, Applicants elect the method for the identification of a sentinel lymph node as claimed in claim 1, administering a preparation comprising microbubbles according to claim 8. I.e. the elected species is microbubbles comprising a shell and a gas or a gas precursor having a mean particle size of about 0.25-15 μm in diameter and a pressure stability of at least 50 % at a pressure of 120 mmHg, and wherein the shell comprises negatively charge phospholipids in an amount of from 50-100%. An example of such species is Sonazoid™, which is used in example 2 of the application.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected claims at a later time.

Applicants make both the group and species election without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

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